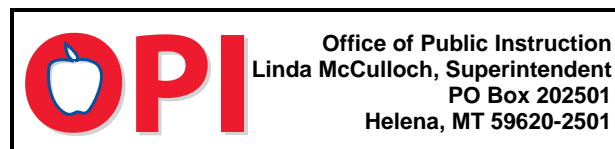


Business & Marketing Education

Electronic News Review January, 2005

Issues EMAILED monthly during the school year & posted on the web!



Components of this newsletter are listed below, and include articles, quotations from articles, web sites, and other current information about Montana Business and Marketing Education programs.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Can you believe it? It's 2005! Remember when we were worried about the world coming to an end and all of our computers crashing at the turn of the century? Now we're half way through the decade and I still have some left over gallons of drinking water in my garage! ☺

Although I don't traditionally make all kinds of new year resolutions, my hope is that you find this new monthly update a useful communication tool from my desk to yours--relaying helpful and valuable information in a timely manner without inundating your "inbox" every other day with a message from me. (Some of you may still get that lucky!)

In addition to your email address, this monthly update will also be posted on the OPI web site: www.opi.mt.gov. (This is a new web address, by the way, effective January 3, 2005). Putting it both places will, hopefully, help you retrieve the info even if your email is not working. As we go along in this new experiment, please feel free to let me know what you think and how this update could be used to help you more! Email: dfiedler@mt.gov.

Well, welcome to 2005—ready or not! May you find joy in every day—however small it be!

Diana

NEW ONLINE LICENSURE RENEWAL OPTION

Do you need to renew your teaching certificate?? If so, you now have an online option. It is an efficient and timely way to renew as data is entered and updated immediately in the certification system. You can access the web site at: www.opi.mt.gov. Once here, choose the Program & Services of OPI drop-down menu and choose *Educator Licensure*. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Keller at 444-2580 or email her at ekeller@mt.gov.

FINANCIAL EDUCATION MADE A NATIONAL PRIORITY

The FDIC has joined the U.S. Treasury Department and other federal departments and agencies in announcing the first major initiatives of the new Financial Literacy and Education Commission—a financial education "toolkit" and a special web site. "The toolkit and web site are positive steps for the federal government's campaign to make financial education a national priority," said FDIC Chairman Don Powell.

The toolkit is available free of charge and includes information on deposit insurance, investments, personal savings, Social Security benefits, choosing a credit card, and other personal financial management tips. The FDIC helped develop the toolkit with the Treasury Department, the Office of Thrift Supervision, the General Services Administration's Federal Citizen Information Center, and other members of the Commission. The toolkit is available by calling the Commission's toll-free hotline at 1-888-MY MONEY. A similar version of the toolkit is also available in Spanish.

In addition, the Commission's new web site: <http://www.mymoney.gov/> will serve as an online clearinghouse for financial education information from the federal government in nine key areas: budgeting and taxes; credit; financial planning; home ownership; privacy, fraud and scams; responding to life events; retirement planning; saving and investing; and starting a small business.

FDIC press releases and other information are available on the Internet via the World Wide Web at <http://www.fdic.gov/>

EDUTOPIA MAGAZINE FREE SUBSCRIPTION

This recently launched magazine from the George Lucas Educational Foundation focuses on innovation in education. Features include: school success stories; techniques, tools, and technologies used by innovative educators; profiles of educational heroes; as well as practical, hands-on insight into what works now, what's up-and-coming, and who's changing the future of education. <http://www.glef.org/mag/fa>.

SEEKING YOUR INPUT

FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT!!

As your advocate at the state level, I'd like to hear from the "field" of business and marketing educators what specific professional development opportunities you'd like to see provided to you. Where do you need some extra help and assistance? Soft skills? Speech recognition and handwriting technologies? Curriculum development? You name it—I'll gather the information—and see if we can't meet your needs. Please contact me at dfiedler@state.mt.us with your ideas and suggestions.

COMPANY CONFERENCE 2005

Montana will host the 2005 National Company Conference at the Big Sky Resort near Bozeman. Conference dates are **July 11-14, 2005**. The agenda includes a site visit to Bozeman High School's "Company" Hawk Enterprise, dynamic sessions, sharing of ideas, a module exchange, and great networking. Along with informative "Company" sessions, there are great activities such as whitewater rafting, blue-ribbon fishing, golfing on great courses, horseback riding, gondola rides at the ski hill, short hikes, viewing Yellowstone Park, great dining and, of course, shopping—all available at our conference site. There will also be an optional weekend trip following the conference to Yellowstone Park, July 14 to 16.

If you are curious about the Company student management system, please come and bring an administrator! Even if you don't choose to use the Company format, you will learn many classroom management techniques that will enhance your learning environments RIGHT NOW! There are successful company programs at this time in Billings, Bozeman, Butte, and Helena, however, Company programs exist all over the United States.

This is curriculum development, so you could plan ahead and use Perkins dollars or Voc Ed funds. Graduate credit will be available from Southern Utah University.

The cost of registration for the 4-day conference is \$495. This includes all conference sessions and materials as well as all breakfasts and lunches and an exciting Western Hayride and BBQ Dinner on Monday evening. Hotel reservations deadline is June 1 to get the special rate. Conference Registration deadline is June 10, 2005.

For more information or to obtain a registration form, either contact Diana Fiedler at dfiedler@mt.gov or Carol Perlinski at: cperlinski@bozeman.k12.mt.us.

Hope you can join us, it will be a GREAT conference!

Don't forget!

Western Business and Information Technology Educators (WBITE) Conference

February 18-21, 2005

"Bet On a Sure Thing"

in Reno, NV

for more details: www.wbite.org

and

2005 NBEA Annual Convention

March 23-26, 2005

in Anaheim, CA

for more details: www.nbea.org

FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING

June 13-17, 2005 the Family Economics & Financial Education Project will be conducting financial literacy training in Bozeman for educators throughout the U.S. Training sessions are lead by FEFE staff members and master teachers, MSU faculty, and professionals in the field. The training equips participants with all of the materials, skills, and knowledge required to teach the semester curriculum, *"Take Charge of Your Finances."* Lesson plans are activity based and designed using the multiple intelligences model and in a ready to teach format. Sixty-seven scholarship packages are available to educators. Includes curriculum costs, travel stipend, registration fee, most meals, and lodging. The application may be downloaded from the Web site at: www.familyfinance.montana.edu.

SCHOLARSHIP APPS DUE JANUARY 28, 2005.

Questions??? Please contact Nicole Chinadle at 406-994-7745 or nchinadle@montana.edu.

PERKINS REAUTHORIZATION

MAY USE HOUSE BILL AS STARTING POINT

When the 109th Congress convenes in early January, the Perkins reauthorization measure that was passed by the House Education and Workforce committee this summer could be a starting point for reauthorization efforts in the new House. At a December 9 legislative session held during ACTE's Annual Convention, a staffer for the House Education and Workforce Committee indicated that the Committee would likely begin its legislative work with bills that made significant progress in the 108th Congress.

http://www.acteonline.org/members/career_tech_update/tu121504.cfm#headline2.

DATABASE MANAGEMENT & ORACLE PARTNERSHIP!

Seven additional high schools and eight new teachers have taken advantage of the 'competitive edge' opportunity made available by the Oracle Internet Academy and will be attending training July 23-30, 2005, at UCLA in Los Angeles, CA. Each school will offer a Database Design & Programming class next fall and a Database Application Development class the following year. Upon completion of these upper level courses, students will possess basic database and Java programming, application development and employability skills, including interviewing, presentation, collaboration, problem solving, and curriculum vitae preparation. Oracle Academy students can graduate with AP college credit and industry-recognized certification.

MONTANA SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN 2005:

**Broadwater High School
Wibaux High School
Plevna High School
Hardin High School
Belgrade High School
Bozeman High School
Flathead High School**

Four Montana teachers attended the Oracle teacher training last July: Buffy Smith, Helena, Todd Lucier, Manhattan, Kris Ford, Three Forks, and Roy Richardson, Troy. Since then, all but Buffy have been teaching Oracle in their classrooms.

DATES to REMEMBER

February 13-19, 2005

CTE Week

February 18-21, 2005

WBITE Conference in Reno, NV

March 6-8, 2005

BPA State Conference in Great Falls

DECA Career Development Conference in Great Falls

March 23-26, 2005

NBEA Annual Convention in Anaheim, CA

April 22-26, 2005

BPA National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, CA

April 27-30, 2005

DECA Int. Career Dev. Conference in Anaheim, CA

TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

Hewlett-Packard is awarding technology grants to bolster the innovative and effective integration of mobile technology in K-16 educational settings. Seventy-five grants of \$30,000 each will be awarded to teams of five teachers from K-12 public schools. The award includes five Tablet PCs, five multimedia projectors, five digital cameras, a printer/scanner, a \$500 stipend for each teacher, and customized professional development. http://www.acteonline.org/members/career_tech_update/ctu111004.cfm#money.

WEBSITES TO REMEMBER

The **Educator's Reference Desk**, successor to the now defunct AskERIC web site, is up and running. The site offers access to more than 2,000 lesson plans previously offered through AskERIC, more than 3,000 links to online education information, and 200+ question archive responses.

Check it out: www.eduref.org

More information is found on these websites:

www.mtbpadeca.org

www.bpa.org

www.deca.org

www.acteonline.org

PROMOTE YOUR PROGRAM!! POSTERS AVAILABLE ON LINE!

Eight Career and Technical Student organizations (BPA, DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, and TSA) have joined forces to promote the importance of career and technical education. A special advertisement ran in the March 15, 2004 issue of *USA Today* in the regional edition for Washington, DC. You can download this ad for use in your classrooms or bulletin boards as posters, handouts or for your local newspapers. Visit <http://www.skillsusa.org/ctso.html> for more information.

HELP MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER MORE VALUABLE

I welcome your comments, suggestions, and/or additions to this e-newsletter!

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